

HOUSE RESOLUTION 14

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Kennedy Brown of the Nashville Ballet.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should recognize those accomplished performing artists who have devoted their lives to their creative endeavors, thereby enriching the lives of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Kennedy Brown, a company member of the Nashville Ballet who, through diligence and dedication to the art of dance, has proven herself a virtuoso among her peers; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brown received rave reviews for her leading performance in Nashville Ballet's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's balletic version of the classic Tennessee Williams play; in the lead role of Stella, she displayed, according to *Dance* magazine, "a potent mixture of sensuality and vulnerability alongside sleek technique"; and

WHEREAS, Kennedy Brown was named a 2021 "25 to Watch" by *Dance* magazine, which further went on to call her "incredibly ambitious and focused" and in possession of "girl-next-door charm and a world-conquering stage presence"; and

WHEREAS, hailing from Chesterton, Indiana, Ms. Brown received her formal training at Master Ballet Academy in Arizona and A & A Ballet in Chicago, Illinois; more recently, she has trained under Magaly Suarez at the Art of Classical Ballet in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Kennedy Brown was a gold medalist in the semi-finals of Youth American Grand Prix, in addition to being a prior silver medalist, and received full scholarships to the Bolshoi and Peridance in New York City; she was also invited to compete and represent the United States in the 2014 USA International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, she appeared as a guest performer at the sixtieth anniversary of the Beijing Academy in China and the Lodz Dane Festival in Poland; she has also won several national titles from her contemporary work and has had the unique experience of making it into the top thirty on the popular television show *So You Think You Can Dance*, where she was honored to dance in the Emmy Award-winning piece choreographed by renowned choreographer Mandy Moore; and

WHEREAS, Kennedy Brown joined the Nashville Ballet in 2017; she was cast in the lead role of *A Streetcar Named Desire* in 2019 as an apprentice, and with this stellar performance, she rightfully became a full company member; and

WHEREAS, Kennedy Brown has done much to contribute to the arts in the State of Tennessee and beyond, and it is fitting that she be honored at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Kennedy Brown of the Nashville Ballet upon her acclaim in the lead role in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, congratulate her upon being named one of *Dance* magazine's 2021 "25 to Watch," and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.